

CLAIMS

We claim:

1 1. A system for assessing a general procurement and
2 accounts payable application of a customer of an enterprise,
3 comprising:

4 a server;

5 a storage device connected to said server;

6 a plurality of team terminals;

7 a communication link interconnecting said server and
8 said terminals; and

9 said server being operable for (1) maintaining a
10 database of templates describing procedures for
11 assessing said application on said storage device and
12 (2) serving said templates to a members of cross
13 function team operating said terminals for
14 coordinating, recording and tracking team activities
15 with respect to said application.

1 2. The system of claim 1, said procedures for assessing
2 including a plurality of tasks selected from the set of
3 tasks including assessing an existing customer application,
4 introducing a recommended service offering to said customer,
5 creating a service offering proposal and contract,
6 conducting a lost bid analysis, conducting a won bid
7 analysis, conducting a transition to an implementation team,
8 and conducting a transition management workshop.

1 3. The system of claim 2, each said template storing,
2 either directly or by way of links to other documents, one
3 or more instructions, flow charts, sample questionnaires,
4 report models and checklists for guiding, coordinating and
5 documenting the work of said enterprise teams.

1 4. A method for assessing a general procurement and
2 accounts payable application, comprising the steps of:

3 maintaining a database of templates describing
4 procedures for assessing said general procurement and

5 accounts payable system;

6 operating a plurality of web-enabled user terminals to
7 access via a server said database for coordinating
8 tasks by a plurality of enterprise teams implementing
9 said procedures.

1 5. The method of claim 4, each said template storing,
2 either directly or by way of links to other documents, one
3 or more instructions, flow charts, sample questionnaires,
4 report models and checklists for guiding, coordinating and
5 documenting the work of said enterprise teams.

1 6. The method of claim 4, further comprising a plurality
2 of steps selected from the set of steps including:

3 assessing an existing customer application,

4 introducing a recommended service offering to said
5 customer,

6 creating a service offering proposal and contract,

7 conducting a lost bid analysis,
8 conducting a won bid analysis,
9 conducting a transition to an implementation team, and
10 conducting a transition management workshop.

1 7. An on-line data gathering process for evaluating a
2 customer's general procurement (GP) and accounts payable
3 (AP) system, comprising the steps of:

4 gathering data describing requirements of said customer
5 for procurement, and data describing currently used
6 tools and processes for satisfying said requirements;
7 and

8 gathering data from said customer which describes a
9 cost for future years of continuing with said currently
10 used tools and processes.

1 8. A web-enabled, enterprise team integrated process for

2 assessing a general procurement and accounts payable system
3 for a client, including:

4 maintaining a database of templates describing
5 procedures for assessing said general procurement and
6 accounts payable system;

7 operating a plurality of web-enabled user terminals to
8 access via a server said database for coordinating
9 tasks by a plurality of enterprise teams implementing
10 said procedures, said procedures including:

11 qualifying said client;

12 accumulating data describing the existing
13 processes, tools, and organizational structure of
14 said client;

15 defining an integrated client solution
16 incorporating technical, educational, and human
17 resources aspects; and

18 delivering a workshop presentation to said client
19 of a service offering.

1 9. The process of claim 8, said procedures further
2 including:

3 determining client requirements with respect to system
4 parameters, including any said requirements pertinent
5 to network process sourcing, procurement, accounts
6 payable, finance, electronic data interchange,
7 information technology, and transition management;

8 determining gaps between said service offering and said
9 requirements;

10 identifying additional requirements including any
11 pertinent to new process support, monetary conversion,
12 commodity structure, account structure, vendor, and
13 contracts;

14 identifying interface requirements including any
15 pertinent to human relations, cost center, catalogs,
16 ledger, information warehouse;

17 identifying client network, EDI, testing, reporting,

18 interfaces and features requirements;
19 preparing and presenting a solution proposal including
20 said service offering adapted by solutions for said
21 gaps to said customer.

1 10. A program storage device readable by a machine,
2 tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by a
3 machine to perform method steps for for assessing a general
4 procurement and accounts payable system for a client, said
5 method steps comprising:

6 maintaining a database of templates describing
7 procedures for assessing said general procurement and
8 accounts payable system;

9 operating a plurality of web-enabled user terminals to
10 access via a server said database for coordinating
11 tasks by a plurality of enterprise teams implementing
12 said procedures.

1 11. An article of manufacture comprising:

2 a computer useable medium having computer readable
3 program code means embodied therein for assessing a
4 general procurement and accounts payable system for a
5 client, the computer readable program means in said
6 article of manufacture comprising:

7 computer readable program code means for causing a
8 computer to effect maintaining a database of templates
9 describing procedures for assessing said general
10 procurement and accounts payable system; and

11 computer readable program code means for causing a
12 computer to operating a plurality of web-enabled user
13 terminals to access via a server said database for
14 coordinating tasks by a plurality of enterprise teams
15 implementing said procedures.

1 12. A computer program product or computer program element
2 for assessing a general procurement and accounts
3 payable system for a client according to the steps of:

4 maintaining a database of templates describing
5 procedures for assessing said general procurement and
6 accounts payable system;

7 operating a plurality of web-enabled user terminals to
8 access via a server said database for coordinating
9 tasks by a plurality of enterprise teams implementing
10 said procedures.